

15 November 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDP/TRO

SUBJECT : Training for Certain Contract Wives

1. We have found ourselves two or three times in the last several months training - usually tutorially - a man whose wife, working on contract, was slated to be his principal inside support and had had no training for this job. In one recent case we discovered this in time and prevailed on the Division to initiate the necessary clearance procedures. Fortunately circumstances permitted the wife to be removed from language school and given training fitted to her specific needs. Others may not have been so fortunate. We have no idea how many such situations may not have been brought to light. Incidentally, this is not a problem with respect to NOC cases.

2. The problem appears to have two parts. One is in the contract relationship which is apparently not finalized until the wife reaches the field and appropriate security clearances requested by the station. Not having these clearances in advance, operational or appropriate support training may seem insurmountable bureaucratic obstacles to the officer affected or to his training officer or both. The other factor may be a financial one, since many of the persons going to such places tend to be younger couples having young children whom the mother cannot leave alone for long periods. The solution here is of course some kind of Agency subsidy to defray all or part of the cost of a baby sitter to enable the wife to be trained for her coming responsibilities.

3. We have found that the clearance procedure is possible if the Division will specifically request it. You may wish to look into the matter of the subsidy as well as alert Division training officers to the desirability of determining, coincident with a man's assignment to the one or two man post, what training his wife should have. If there

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are other financial considerations connected with executing a contract prior to the wife's arrival in the field, it would seem logical that a clause could be written into a contract prepared and signed here which authorizes clearance for training, but precludes reimbursement for the time spent in that training. Perhaps the clearance procedure could be made easier without having to get into the matter of contract at all.


Chief, Operations School/TR

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